

# VIRGINIA RIDER

*Serving the Riders of Virginia & West Virginia*

*Magazine*™



FREE

**FALL INTO THE HOLIDAYS**  
**November 2021**

[www.virginiarider.com](http://www.virginiarider.com)



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## from the editor's desk

It's the most wonderful time of the year!...(with the voice of Andy Williams singing this iconic Christmastime song ...it's one of my favorites ☺ ) Season's greetings Virginia riders! We hope that you all are enjoying the holiday season. As we get closer to the end of the year it kind of reminds me of an old saying about the toilet paper roll...the closer it gets to the end, the faster it goes ha ha. It's so true though. The days seem to really fly by as we ride from fall into winter.

We've got some awesome articles on topic for you as you turn these pages such as, riding at night, winterizing your bike, and since you'll be spending more time inside over these next few months, we'll give you the scoop on the benefits of some air-cleaning plants that you may want to get for your home and work space too. You'll find those and much more great info and great places to ride inside this edition of Virginia Rider.

We want YOU to be a part of the magazine! You're welcome to send us your pictures anytime. We especially love pics of you on or with your bike! "A machine only comes alive when it becomes one with its rider." – Kelly Collins. We also love Quotes, as you can see! ...so much that we are starting a giftcard giveaway! You'll often see us post famous quotes in the magazine or on our social media pages that capture the essence of life on 2, 3 or 4 wheels. We would like to know YOUR quotes, your words or saying about life or riding! All you have to do is send us via email (virginiaridermagazine@yahoo.com) or message us on facebook @virginiaridermagazine, a picture of yourself with your bike and YOUR quote and you'll be entered for our gift card giveaway! We'll be selecting winners a few times a week throughout December & announcing them on our facebook page. Everyone can use a little extra \$\$ this time of year so be sure to send yours in!

As we start working on our year end wrap up, we are thinking about you & just want to thank you so much for being here with us and for all the support you've given this year. We are truly thankful for you and look forward to great times ahead as we roll into the new year.

Stay healthy & safe friends - we'll see you soon!

Stay awesome,

*Kelly*

## IN THIS ISSUE



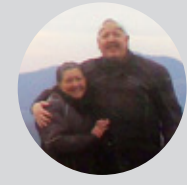
Matt is looking quite intense sitting atop his most recent bike, a vivid black 2017 Harley-Davidson Heritage Classic. Matt's owned several bikes over the years, and he did this one up right. You can see it in **MY RIDE**.

### GOOD FOR YOU

We think of the holidays as a time of over-indulgence in the food department, but there are many foods that will allow you all the pleasure and none of the guilt, eaten in moderation, of course!



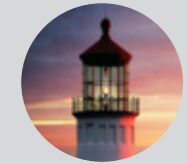
John Peterson is back with **BIKE SAVERS**. Is there an upside to staying at home and social distancing? He says yes as he walks us through his "CA95 project", from complete teardown to complete restoration.



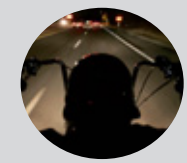
The day started with making sure the chicken strips were packed, because you never know when you will want to engage in Spontaneity, Parks and Mayonnaise while driving a steerable machine. Read all about it in this month's **GREAT PLACES TO RIDE**.



It's another year for the books for **SHOTZ**, in which we feature your pics of rides, bikes, friends and anything else relating to bikes that you'd like to share with us. Winter's coming - send in your riding pics!



Susan Black introduces us to an Anonymous Benefactor this month in **THE LIGHTHOUSE**. She recounts the Christmas of 1977 when she was destitute, but a stranger helped remind her of the true joy of Christmas.



There's nothing quite like riding your motorcycle at night, but there are lots of things to consider and dangers to avoid, like bad roads and animals. Find out how to do it safely in **NIGHT RIDER Riding Your Bike At Night**.

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ON OUR COVER:  
By now you probably have either gotten your Christmas tree or will have it soon. This fellow found a great way to get his home!



## HOLIDAY FOODS THAT ARE GOOD FOR YOU

Ahhhh, the holidays...A time to get together with family and indulge in lots of delicious foods and goodies. While holiday feasting is a festive and happy part of enjoying this special time of year, many people find themselves feeling guilty over the food they ate during the holiday. Even though you may have consumed a little more than your recommended daily caloric intake, there are many health benefits behind the traditional foods that are served at our holiday meals.

Here are some of the top holiday favorites and their health benefits to hopefully make you feel a little better about your food habits on the festive holiday.



**MASHED POTATOES** - Mashed potatoes are not usually what people envision as healthy, and that is true, they are not necessarily the best thing for you. Still, potatoes, the star in this dish, do happen to do a lot of good for your body. Potatoes are packed with many minerals, antioxidants, and nutrients such as vitamin C, vitamin B6, and potassium which are essential for your bodily functions. Potatoes also have resistant starch, which may help regulate blood sugar levels making potatoes a great food choice, especially for people who suffer insulin resistance. To add on, studies have even shown that potatoes may lower your chance of colon cancer. Not to mention that potatoes are very filling, so eating these mashed potatoes first can help deter you from eating too much during Thanksgiving. A lot of good behind this quite unassuming but common food!



**GREEN BEANS** - Green beans is one of the most common vegetables consumed during holiday meals, usually through dishes like green bean casserole. Like potatoes, green beans have a lot of vitamins and minerals, particularly Vitamin C and Vitamin A. These vitamins can boost your immune system and promote healthy vision. Green beans also have high levels of manganese, which is great for your bones and boosts your metabolism. To top it all off, green beans are low in calories and contain a lot of fiber, which can promote a healthy weight and healthy heart.



**SWEET POTATOES** - Many people think of sweet potatoes as potato's healthier cousin. These root vegetables pack a lot of punch in the health benefits department. Like potatoes and green beans, sweet potatoes have a lot of vitamins and minerals, particularly vitamin C and vitamin A. Sweet potatoes also contain beta-carotene, which is an antioxidant that has been linked to slowing down cognitive decline as well as keeping lungs healthy. Furthermore, the fiber levels and antioxidants in potatoes promote gut health and like potatoes, sweet potatoes have been linked to lower rates of cancer. Anthocyanin, an antioxidant in sweet potatoes, has been found to lower growth rates of bladder, colon, stomach, and breast cancers.



**CRANBERRIES** - Cranberry sauce is one of the most common condiments found on the holiday dinner table. Cranberries include a ton of health benefits and some even consider it a superfood, due to its high nutrient and antioxidant content. Cranberries are high in fiber, low in calories, and full of vitamins such as vitamin C and the vitamin Bs. Cranberries also contain polyphenols which can help lower the risk of cardiovascular disease. Studies have found that cranberries may slow down cancer spread as well. Cranberries are even great for your mouth; they can prevent bacteria from binding to your teeth and gum disease.



**CORN** - Corn is a popular food all around and is commonly found on the holiday feast table. Sweet corn contains many vitamins including potassium, folate, and vitamin B6. Corn also contains a decent amount of protein, so this side dish on Thanksgiving is perfect for vegans and vegetarians who aren't able to get protein from meat. Corn contains many antioxidants as well. For instance,

corn contains the antioxidant lutein, which can protect your eyes from damage caused by blue light.



**TURKEY** - The star of most holiday dinners, turkey, is probably the first food that pops up when thinking of Thanksgiving OR Christmas feasts. Turkey, like most meat, is loaded with protein. And luckily, turkey is white meat, so you aren't getting those ill effects associated red meat such as beef or pork. Turkey also contains B vitamins, which is essential for the stuff going on in your body like making red blood cells and amino acids. To add on, turkey has a lot of minerals such as phosphorous, which promotes bone health. Turkey contains the amino acid L-tryptophan, which produces sleep-promoting serotonin and melatonin. ... So don't blame the turkey for your tiredness; the heavy load of carbs that made up the rest of the meal are likely the culprits.



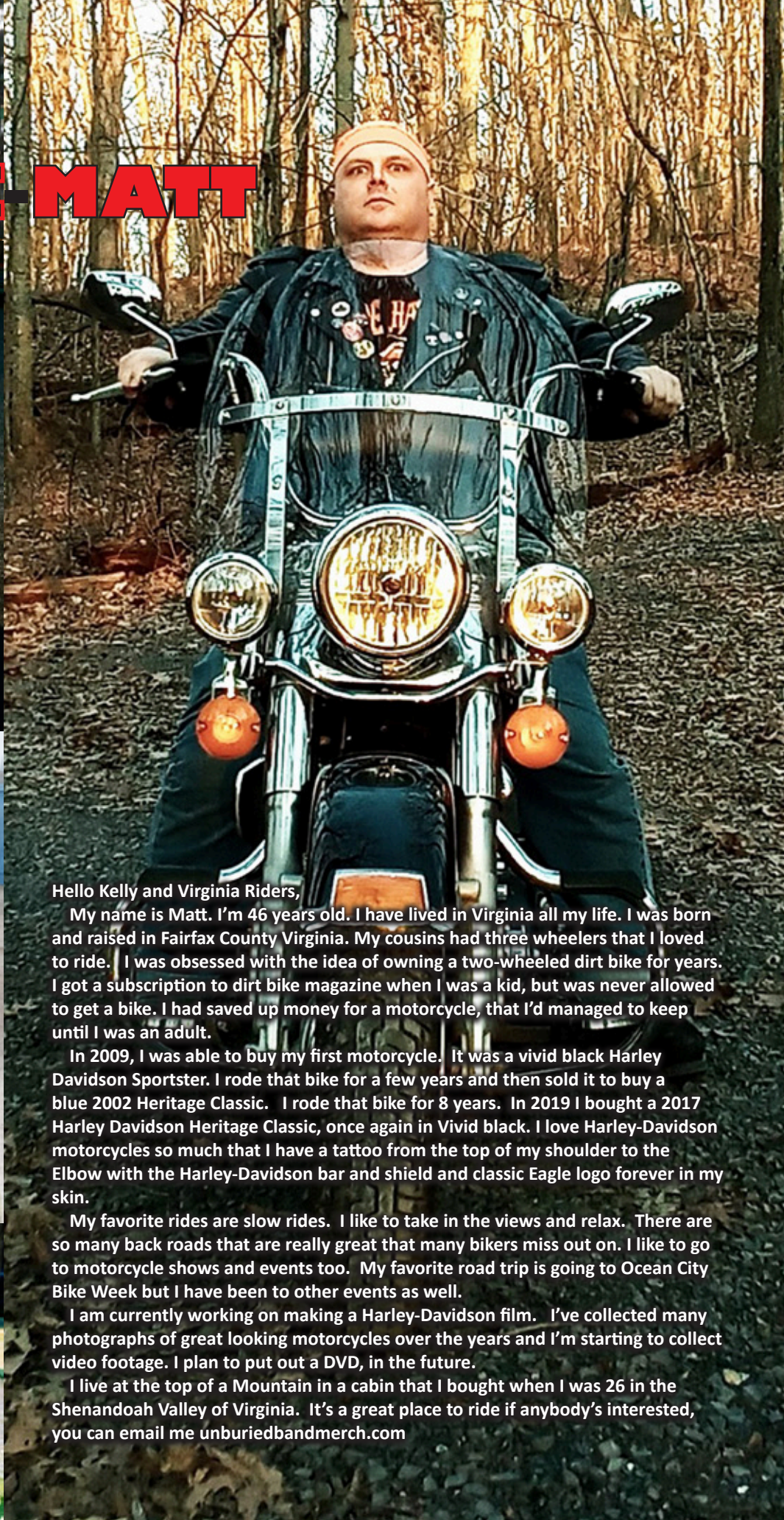
**PUMPKIN PIE** - Although pumpkin pie has somewhat unhealthy features, there are also some very healthy aspects to it. Pumpkin is the main ingredient in pumpkin pie and it is highly nutritious. Pumpkin is especially rich in vitamin A which is great for your eyesight and it along with other vitamins and antioxidants help boost your immune system. That is something that sure is a bonus during this pandemic. The nutrients in pumpkin promote heart health, healthy skin, and may even lower your risk of cancer. Also, desserts in general can actually be good for you! Consuming desserts can cause your brain to produce tryptophan and serotonin which basically makes you happy and can promote emotional well-being. So, psychologically, desserts are likely to be the part of your meal that makes you smile the most. There are a lot of health benefits in our holiday foods so you don't have to feel too guilty about eating them! Here's wishing you plenty of good eats & treats with family & friends...

Good For You

& Cheers to happy tastebuds this holiday season!  
Source: <https://spoonuniversity.com/healthier/health-benefits-behind-thanksgiving-foods>



# MY RIDE - MATT



Hello Kelly and Virginia Riders,

My name is Matt. I'm 46 years old. I have lived in Virginia all my life. I was born and raised in Fairfax County Virginia. My cousins had three wheelers that I loved to ride. I was obsessed with the idea of owning a two-wheeled dirt bike for years. I got a subscription to dirt bike magazine when I was a kid, but was never allowed to get a bike. I had saved up money for a motorcycle, that I'd managed to keep until I was an adult.

In 2009, I was able to buy my first motorcycle. It was a vivid black Harley Davidson Sportster. I rode that bike for a few years and then sold it to buy a blue 2002 Heritage Classic. I rode that bike for 8 years. In 2019 I bought a 2017 Harley Davidson Heritage Classic, once again in Vivid black. I love Harley-Davidson motorcycles so much that I have a tattoo from the top of my shoulder to the Elbow with the Harley-Davidson bar and shield and classic Eagle logo forever in my skin.

My favorite rides are slow rides. I like to take in the views and relax. There are so many back roads that are really great that many bikers miss out on. I like to go to motorcycle shows and events too. My favorite road trip is going to Ocean City Bike Week but I have been to other events as well.

I am currently working on making a Harley-Davidson film. I've collected many photographs of great looking motorcycles over the years and I'm starting to collect video footage. I plan to put out a DVD, in the future.

I live at the top of a Mountain in a cabin that I bought when I was 26 in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It's a great place to ride if anybody's interested, you can email me [unburiedbandmerch.com](mailto:unburiedbandmerch.com)

Spotting a motorcycle on the road can be just as hard as finding one in this picture.

Keep an eye out for motorcycles.



Share the road with motorcycles

## Don't Drink And Drive This Holiday Season



If you mistake these for pretty holiday lights, you shouldn't be driving.



## WE ALL DO THINGS WE REGRET WHEN WE'RE DRUNK. MAKE SURE RIDING ISN'T ONE OF THEM.



DON'T WRECK YOUR MOTORCYCLE AND YOUR LIFE. RIDE SMART. RIDE SOBER.



# Baby It's Cold Outside!

## Getting Your Bike Ready For Winter

From corrosion and rust spots to a dead battery, motorcycles feel the effects of cold weather and snow just like we do—especially if they're sitting idle for months at a time. Maybe you've never winterized your bike before to get it ready for storage. Or maybe you do winterize but aren't sure if your techniques will stand up to this winter's freezing temperatures. Either way, we've compiled this quick list of common questions and answers to help you keep your motorcycle in perfect form until spring comes back around.

### **DO I NEED TO WINTERIZE MY MOTORCYCLE EVEN IF I'M GOING TO BE RIDING IT BEFORE SPRING?**

The word "winterizing" might bring to mind months on end devoid of riding, during which your motorcycle sits hibernating in your garage. But even if you're going to be riding during the winter, you should still follow some winterizing best practices to keep your motorcycle running at top shape in cold weather conditions.

If you were putting your bike away for the winter, you would be replacing all your fluids (more on that later). But just because you'll be winter riding doesn't mean you can skip this step entirely. Make sure to maintain your fluids—especially your coolant, which can become acidic quickly in the cold weather. Wash and wax your motorcycle. Dirt, grease and water spots can affect your bike's finishes; an all-over cleaning with a motorcycle-specific wash product will help prevent corrosion. Once you've washed and dried your ride, wax it. This will help repel salt water that's common on the road in the winter—and that could otherwise cause corrosion.

Treat your fuel every time you come back in from a cold-weather ride. (Keep reading for more on this point.)

### **WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I'M STORING MY BIKE OUTSIDE?**

In an ideal world, every motorcycle will be stored carefully



inside a heated garage with a breathable, waterproof dust cover. But not everyone has the luxury of a garage or shed. If you fall into the latter camp, then follow these tips:

Bring the battery and seats inside; these are the parts of your bike most affected by cold weather. Storing your seat indoors and conditioning it with vinyl protector will help prevent it from cracking. To keep your battery in good shape between now and spring, hook your battery to a maintainer/charger quickly via quick connector.

Even though it might feel counter-intuitive, if your motorcycle is staying outdoors during the winter, it could be best to keep it uncovered. A cover that's out in the elements can do more harm than good, collecting moisture and pinning it against your motorcycle. (And remember, moisture often equals corrosion.) Note that the same goes for bikes stored indoors: if your cover isn't breathable and shifts around rather than staying secure, you're better leaving your motorcycle uncovered.

Whether storing your motorcycle indoors or outdoors, avoid using a tarp as a cover. Although it may be conveniently sitting around your house, it's just not designed to get the job done. Tarps trap moisture whereas a quality motorcycle cover is designed to ventilate.

### **IS IT BETTER TO EMPTY OR FILL MY MOTORCYCLE'S FUEL SYSTEM?**

After you've taken your motorcycle for a ride, one of your first major steps should be to treat your fuel. You likely fall into one or two camps on this issue: either you're the type of person who empties the fuel system completely or the one who insists on filling it up.

### **BUT WHICH IS BEST FOR YOUR BIKE?**

If you have a fuel-injected bike, filling it up is a whole lot easier. And it's also effective: by filling up your fuel system, you drive out any air space and minimize the possibility of water. (Water



and oxygen are two major reasons why your fuel gets gummy.) Because an empty tank is also vulnerable to corrosion, we recommend the fill-up method.

Once you've filled up your fuel system, add some treatment to top it off completely. Then, run the motor so the treated fuel makes it all the way through your motorcycle's intakes and injectors.

Pro tip: While your bike is still warm, wax the chain. This gets the chain lubricated more easily and ensures it's protected from salt and rust.

### **WHAT FLUIDS DO I NEED TO REPLACE?**

Don't leave old, broken-down oil in your motorcycle all winter long. Make it a priority to change your oil; a winter-weight oil like a 5W30 will make it easier to start up your bike when spring rolls around.

Also check your coolant system to make sure there's enough anti-freeze. This is crucial for any rider, but especially if you're not going to be using your bike until the weather gets warmer.



### **DO I REALLY NEED TO PUT CARDBOARD UNDER THE TIRES?**

After you've finished filling up your tank, replacing your fluids and giving your motorcycle a full wash and wax, it's time for the finishing touches: adding a cover and, according to many, cardboard under the wheels. It may seem unnecessary, but putting something underneath your tires—carpet squares will also work—can keep the moisture in your floors from affecting the rubber.

You can also try a bike stand, which brings the added bonus of keeping the weight off the tires. If you're going the carpet or cardboard route, rotate the wheels every few weeks to prevent flat spots.

### **DO I NEED TO RIDE MY MOTORCYCLE ONCE A WEEK UNTIL SPRING?**

This is a question you hear a lot, especially when Mother Nature makes a weekly ride difficult. Although regular use is good for your motorcycle, if you commit to a weekly ride during the winter, make sure it's more than just a quick spin. You need to run your motorcycle to its full operating temperature to cook off moisture and recharge your battery. Otherwise, that quick start can be hard on your motor and moisture could end up where you don't want it.

Although every rider has their own winterizing routine, the goal should always be to keep your motorcycle in top shape during the winter months. This not only keeps your bike running better for longer, but also helps you get right back to riding as soon as the warm weather rolls back around.

Source: <https://motorcyclershippers.com/2019/02/motorcycle-winterizing-questions>





# GREAT PLACES TO RIDE

with Marc Ritchie and Rose Grant

## Spontaneity, Parks and Mayonnaise: The Influence of Steerable Machines

Chicken strips were safely stowed in the tour pack for a future picnic. Since going back wasn't an option at the four-way intersection at Fast Break in Monterey, I had three choices which way to go. North was out because I prefer heading that way on the return leg instead of looking into the sun this time of year. West was tempting through the mountains, but today, I felt like parking it in the highway gear heading south on 220, and cruising for a while taking in some barn quilts. Puddle of Mud's "Drift and Die" was dealt from the shuffled, but stacked deck of audio cards on my phone. I toggled the volume knob upward and took a deep breath rolling past a long row of tall pine trees. Rose's leg got a squeeze as well. It was beautiful out with temps in the high 60s. Skies, this day, have often been referred to by pilots as, "Severe clear." Rose and I were having an awful time: you know, perfect riding weather, empty roads, and great scenery,, just awful. Sensing that our despair couldn't last forever, we crept towards a three-axle log truck ahead in our path. He was adequately spirited on the flat straights, but quite Bogarted and hamstrung when the paint began to bend, and the altimeter moved clockwise. At last, a long, empty row of dotted yellow lines appeared as Windy made quick work of the laden lorry, and our misery continued.

The peaceful, calm cruising took on a new complexion entering the George Washington National Forest in Bath County. What was once a vast, open experience, was now mostly confined to a canopy of trees, hills and sweeping corners. I backed off the throttle eliminating any issues from the moist road where dew was trying to evaporate in the shadows. I just used moist in a sentence.

We arrived at an intersection and turned right. Following the front tire up until now, with no particular place to go, at last, I decided where we would. It was pretty much a spontaneous, preference on the fly ride to this point. And it had changed to a more programable affair with intent, and a clear outcome, in an instant. Either way, it was still an adventure. And chances are, there were still things to discover we might have otherwise missed or given any thought to, like a row of maple trees that caught Rose's eye, whose leaves were starting to change on our short cut through Bacova.

Lake Moomaw and Gathright Dam have always been sort of a black hole to me: the closer I get, the more likely it is I stop there. It was created for flood prevention and recreation along the Jackson River by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers and completed in 1979. Even though the visitor's center remains closed to tourists, there is plumbing available in season, and stove pipes, blue rooms and well secluded areas of wilderness otherwise. It's a great alternative to the crowds at other parks, and we usually have the place to ourselves outside of summer. The setting reminds me of some of the lakes in Tennessee: void of houses and nothing but trees and



wildlife in a picturesque setting.

Rose and I walked out along the long, empty dock next to the boat ramp, hand in hand. She noticed bluegills below the surface and immediately reflected to a time when her mother would take her fishing. Aside from the wind and our footsteps, the birds seen flying over the water were the only things we could hear.

The chicken was finally enjoyed on a bench overlooking the intake tower. The new sounds of squirrels scurrying through the leaves were accompanying the birds. An occasional splash could be heard from a fish jumping out of the lake below. It was like a scene on any old CBS Sunday Morning Show with Charles Kuralt. Life's stresses were finally tucked away. Even if for a brief moment, the mission was accomplished.

Our stomachs and dose of nature satisfied, it was time to depart. Team GL was headed home, but again, with no particular route in mind, until we descended Warm Springs Mountain. Turning left on Rt. 609 just past the mansion with a runway, we followed the very wet Dry Run. It's a narrow, bumpy road, but paved, with several small waterfalls and cascades after a good rain, that adequately tests a bike's suspension, and a passen-



ger's attitude. Depending on your bike and pillion, "tests" might be replaced with "exceeds."

Sensing Rose needed a break (I know I did), we stopped in Burnsville at the recently re-opened Robert's Grocery Store. Originally built in 1920, it was like being on a set of The Waltons inside. Original hard wood floors creaked as we browsed around admiring all of the antique fixtures. They have limited hours, but when they're open, there are drinks, snacks, and pantry items for sale. We've traveled dozens of miles for a cup of coffee. Now we have an excuse to ride for some Duke's Mayonnaise. Yeah, it's a thing.

I once read, "It is in the sublime, where a greater reality exists": like a deep track in a prog-rock album that never gets played on FM radio, or a dish at a remote mom and pop you'll never find at a cookie cutter restaurant at a highway exit. There are backroads within backroads, and places below the best radar. And while these paths and places may not be as euphoric and grand as some mountain or coastal highways with valley or ocean views, they too can leave an indelible memory, especially if you're sharing it with someone you love. Some may turn to gravel, and for few miles, that may be OK. But if we find ourselves always riding on popular roads, clearly marked, within GPS and cell range, with video game arrows and posted safe speeds on every corner, and signs to our predetermined destinations so we never feel astray or off-course,, we're doing it wrong.

Cheers and thanks for reading!

Marc Ritchie  
Photos: Rose Grant



# Christmas and Holiday Season In Virginia

From over-the-top tacky light tours to dazzling drive-through light displays, experiencing the best Christmas lights in Virginia is a must. Cut your own Christmas tree at a Virginia tree farm, take family holiday photos in Virginia's most festive places, visit charming small towns to shop for made in Virginia gifts, and introduce new Virginia holiday recipes at your family dinner (paired with seasonal beverages, of course).

So deck the halls and add a little extra holiday spirit to the season when you celebrate with your friends and family in Virginia!

Visit <https://www.virginia.org/events/national-holiday-and-observances/christmas-and-holiday-season/> for the excitement and magic of the holiday season.

**VIRGINIA  
IS FOR  
LOVERS**



Marc Ritchie's "When Magic Fills The Air" is indeed filled with "Extraordinary Tales on Two Wheels". Marc, along with Rose's photographs, brings unique and fascinating glimpses into the magical world of motorcycling.

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# Should You Drop Your Motorcycle Insurance In The Winter Months?

When the temperatures start to dip, all but the hardest motorcycle riders typically start the process of topping off their tanks, adding fuel stabilizer, and all the other tasks that go along with retiring a bike to the garage for the winter. That's also when some riders start to wonder whether they can save a few dollars by temporarily cancelling insurance on their bikes.

But, should you drop insurance on a motorcycle that's in winter storage? Well, it may be tempting, but, if you give it some thought, you'll probably find that it's not the soundest practice. Here are some reasons why.

## WHY YOU SHOULD KEEP YOURSELF PROTECTED

To begin, you have to be certain that your bike will remain in storage for the entire season. Even if your area is hit with unseasonably warm winter weather, if you cancel your insurance, you'd have to fight the impulse to take your bike out for a ride. Otherwise, you'd be out there without a policy to protect you against an accident or some other unfortunate event.

You also need to remember that your bike still faces risks when it's supposedly "safe and sound" in storage. Theft, fire, vandalism and storm damage are all possibilities. If you were to cancel your insurance, and something were to happen to your bike, you'd likely be left to pay the damages or the repair costs out of pocket.

Another important consideration: You may not actually realize any savings by cancelling your policy over the winter. Insurance companies vary, but some may take into account the typical riding season in your state when they price a policy (even if it's spread over a 12-month period). That means you may not actually receive a refund for canceling your winter coverage. Check with your insurance agent to determine if seasonal coverage options are available.

## WHAT YOU MIGHT DO TO SAVE

So, while there are likely good reasons to hang on to your policy over the winter months, is there anything you can do to realize some savings? Again, it'll depend on your insurance company, but you do have some options. According to the Insurance Information Institute (III), you may be able to purchase what's called a "lay-up" policy, which temporarily suspends all but the comprehensive coverage on your motorcycle insurance. Comprehensive coverage protects you against an event that's not related to a collision, such as theft, vandalism or other similar incident that might occur while the bike is in storage. Even if yours isn't one of these lay-up policies, you might find that you can make a similar, temporary reduction of coverages on your own policy. (Just be sure to reinstate all your coverages before you ride your bike again in the spring.)

Another option might be raising your deductible during the winter months, which would likely lower your premium. Make sure you understand the implications of such a decision, though. For instance, would you have enough cash on hand to pay the higher deductible if something were to happen? Your driving record, the number of miles you ride, and where you actually store your bike are other factors that can also impact your premium, the III says.

You might also consider taking a motorcycle safety course as a way to save on your policy. According to the III, some insurance companies may offer 10 to 15 percent discounts if you complete one.

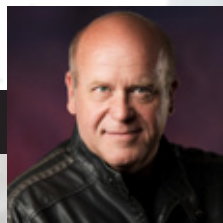
So, talk it over with your agent. You may discover that there are, indeed, some untapped opportunities to help reduce the cost of your motorcycle policy — and that they not only help you out in the winter months, but year-round.

Source: <https://www.allstate.com/tr/motorcycle-insurance/motorcycle-insurance-in-winter.aspx>



# BIKE SAVERS

with John Peterson



## Social Distancing and You The Upside



Since I'm already a pretty privacy-oriented guy, all this Covid19 'stuff' (for lack of a better word) going on over the past year and a half or so has been, for me, a nice excuse to stay off the streets and in the garage, which frankly is where I want to be anyway. I read somewhere that some wag said 'social distancing is nothing new, I've been practicing it for years,' and I would have to agree with that statement.

And despite being a guy who really likes working, mainly to keep up with my other hobbies of eating and living indoors, this worldwide pandemic has created a perfect storm for me - I've always enjoyed my own space, so using an abundance of caution, staying away from crowds and masking up whenever I venture outdoors is fine with me. But old bikes need parts, and those parts need money; and with today's shortages, social distancing, wearing a mask when you're out and about, and Covid 19 rates impacting commerce and resulting in shortages everywhere, I'm having to take the good with the bad.

As of this writing, the world as a whole has kind of come to grips with the New Normal - people both vaccinated and unvaccinated are wearing facemasks everywhere, practicing social distancing and for the most part generally being cautious when they go to places they used to go freely, such as parts stores and other places...this is the Bad.

But the Good in this situation, if you can call it that, and presuming you have your health, vaccination card, social distancing, maybe working from home and, oh, I don't know... enough rum and cat food to make it through - is you may have enough time to seize the moment, take a break and turn some attention to whatever needs to be done to whatever project is languishing in your chosen workspace. I mean, really - If Not Now, WHEN??

Don't get me wrong, in these weirdly trying times I'm not saying spending money on something you Want versus something you Need is a good idea, but you can do a lot with what you have to help you take your mind off of the madness while you enjoy a

little self-imposed isolation - for safety's sake, of course. Hit the garage, pick your favorite CD and get that job done that you've been promising to do - like this:



This is just one of the problems I found when I opened up my CA95 project...Yikes!!

This little number here I met with a mix of horror and anticipation, because at the time I thought there was No Way this was coming back; but with a big dose of perseverance, care, patience, and time, it did. Even the original rotor and stator cleaned up well -and worked!

Check this out - this is what I found when I opened the engine.



Looks like you could put a lunar lander down on that one! This operation ultimately took a cold chisel and a LOT of penetrant, heat, muscle and time to finally get to budge, and in the end I wound up replacing the head, although I DID manage to get the pistons out.

Unfortunately I don't have any pics of the repair process, me sweating like a sinner in church under the shop lights in the

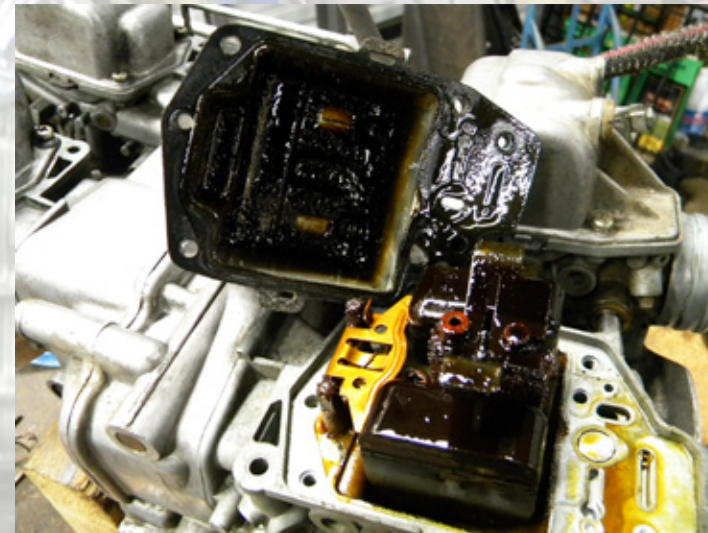
Virginia summer heat, beating the bejeezus out of the head with a pipe, 5-lb steel sledge and the necessary proper application of colorful invective...but she runs great now! Interestingly enough, my aggressive efforts did not damage the cylinders at all. It was that thick rust-ring around the left piston there is what did me in. I couldn't hone it out, so I was left with no choice but to replace the head.

Yes, this build took a while, but despite the seemingly unbeatable odds, here's an example of what you can accomplish if you have enough time, patience and a beverage or three:



Ain't She Sweet! Ready to roll, with the exception of a few small things - grips, side covers - nothing major.

Here's another example - I found this when I opened up the 1975 Honda Goldwing project I picked up:



See all that shiny black ichor? Looks wet, doesn't it...but that's actually decades-old dried-on gasoline! Nothing moved in any of these four carbs, they were all glued shut with old gasoline varnish like you see here.

Carburetor repair can be tricky and I had my worries about this one, especially with 45 year-old GL1000 parts being as pricy as they are. But again, with some perseverance, patience, care and safety, things turned out great:



Yup, Same Carburetor. Some things are different, obviously - I did replace the jets and bowl gaskets, needle and seat, etc., but the floats are all the same ones, all the carb passages are clear and all things being equal they turned out pretty well.

And that's what I'm getting at with this month's column. I do not mean to make light of our situation at all. These are some strange times we are moving through, and things will be different when we come out the other side; but we ARE moving, and I believe we will make it through. As Winston Churchill said, "If you're going through hell, keep going." Whether its old bikes and crappy carbs or whatever problem it is you're facing, no matter how seriously ugly the situation seems, a thing of beauty can come out of it. And even a bad day in the garage is better than a good day at work, right? Especially these days.



Keep going, be patient, take care, and be safe. We'll all be back on the road soon.

Happy Holidays, y'all.

-John



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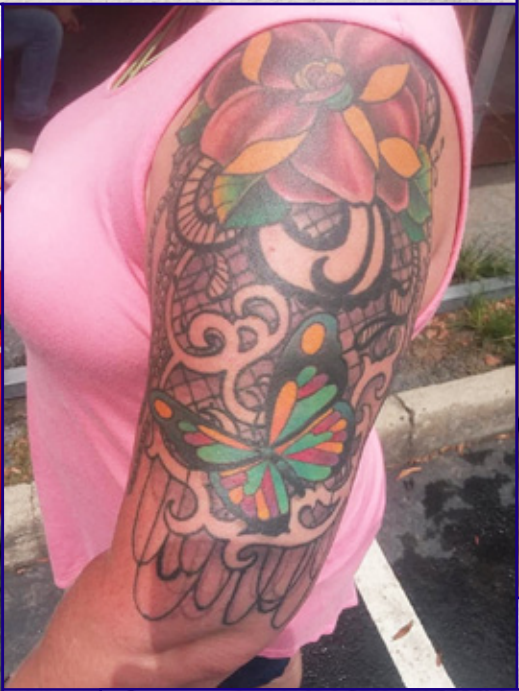
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# SHOTZ

Email your "SHOTZ" to [virginiaridermagazine@yahoo.com](mailto:virginiaridermagazine@yahoo.com)





Autumn is one of the best times to ride and experience the splendor of nature. There's no better way to see the fall foliage than via a motorcycle ride through fields and forests. On a bike, you're immersed in the ever-changing panorama of foliage colors—unobstructed by a car's roof and its pillars. Even a convertible places a frame in your line of vision. On a motorcycle, you glide visually unrestricted through the majesty of the trees. Fall foliage season is very symbolic for us riders. It's a yearly mile marker in our riding season. The swelter of late summer is gone, transformed into the delightful daytime warmth and cool nights of fall. The trees tell us that temperatures are about to fall, as the leaves flutter to the ground. And those fallen leaves look pretty on the ground. Who doesn't remember the childhood joy of playing or hiding in leaves? Oh, those beautiful leaves are so pretty on the trees and yet so sneaky when on the ground.

**Slip and fall—but that's not all**

Wet leaves on the road can be as slippery as an oil slick. Watch for them, especially in corners. Cornering uses a good measure of your tire's available traction. Wet leaves can suddenly take away the remaining traction and lead to a fall. Use caution when braking on wet leaves, as well. Wet leaves between a tire under braking loads and the road surface can cause the tire to lose traction and skid. Even with anti-lock brakes, caution is a good strategy. Wet leaves are also a hazard under your boots when stopping or maneuvering in a parking lot. Fallen leaves, even when dry, present hazards. They can cover the paint lane markings on the road, concealing the lane size and turn directions. This is particularly dangerous at night when sight distance is shorter.

Leaves piled along the side of the road can cover surface hazards like:

- Open sewer grates
- Curbs
- Roadside rain gullies
- Debris

Piles of fallen leaves can conceal many surface hazards at intersections, including:

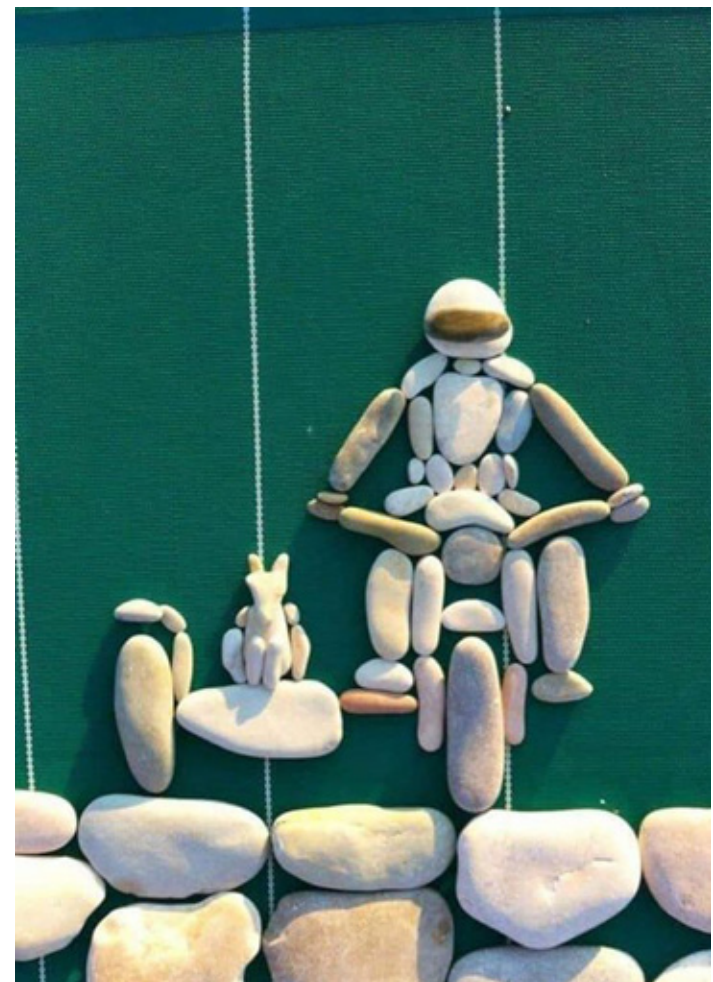
- Low-profile concrete dividers used for traffic calming
- Large, slippery preformed thermoplastic lane direction arrows and crosswalk markers
- Oil and antifreeze spills
- Broken glass and debris from previous fender benders

Also, be sure to never park your motorcycle near piles of dry leaves. Hot exhaust pipes can cause a fire. Motorcycles that have catalytic converters are at an increased risk due to higher temperatures.

And, please don't ride through piles of leaves. Remember, a youngster could be playing in them!

Till next time, enjoy the foliage and beware the fallen leaves. Ride safe!

Source: <https://www.dairylandinsurance.com/motorcycle/on-the-road/safety/fall-riding-tips>



# MOYLAN ARROW

Since the early 1990s, many fuel gauges have included an icon with a fuel pump and an arrow, indicating the side of the vehicle on which the fuel filler is located. The use of the icon and arrow was invented in 1986 by Jim Moylan, a designer for Ford Motor Company.





# The Lighthouse

*“Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights.” James 1:17*

## The Anonymous Benefactor

With a Cadillac, a maid, and a gardener, my family always had a Christmas with the best gifts from Santa’s sleigh.

My anticipation of opening gifts on Christmas Day was boundless, for I knew my mother was an uncontrolled shopper when it came to my whims. After opening one gift after another, I toted my new acquisitions up and down the street so all the neighbors would know that Santa loved me best and that my parents were spoiling me to my complete satisfaction.

From such a worldly background of material prosperity, it seemed only natural for me to fantasize that when I had children of my own the established tradition of wealth and abundant giving at Christmas would continue. If that had been the case, I would not have had one memorable Christmas—just more of the same.

It was in 1977, almost twenty years ago, that my Christmas took a strange twist. Circumstances had changed. I was no longer the little girl awaiting the parental handout, but was an adult attempting to make my own way in life. I was a graduate student in 1977, completing a doctoral degree and raising three small sons alone. Like several other graduate students, I had obtained university employment as a research writer for a professor; and like most of the students, I was struggling to meet my financial obligations.

Five days before Christmas, I realized that my mismanagement of funds would prevent much gift buying of any kind. It seemed unbearable to me.

Cuddling my sons, I reluctantly explained my abhorrence of debt and the specter of our economic plight. My emotions surfaced as the children attempted to comfort me by nodding assiduously, “Don’t worry! Santa Claus will give us gifts.”

Cautiously, I explained, “I think Santa Claus is also having a bad

year.”

With certainty my first born son, Brian, announced, “But on television his sleigh is still filled with toys. With five days left till Christmas, he’ll have plenty for us.” His younger brother Todd interjected, “Besides, Santa won’t forget us. We’ve been good this year.”

As all three nodded in agreement, I did too. My sons had been good. They had found happiness and friendship in our family; we all were unusually close. Perhaps it was our circumstance. Yet, despite their goodness, they would soon be disappointed because neither Santa nor mother would bring the desired presents on Christmas Day.

That night I cried and pled with the Lord for relief, for a glimmer of hope that Christmas in our home would be better than I anticipated. My verbal prayers awakened the children. They seemed to intuitively know what was causing my unhappiness.

“Don’t worry about presents. It doesn’t matter,” said Brian. I knew it didn’t matter on December 20th, but I knew it would be all-important on December 25th.

The next morning, I could not hide the despair and self-pity that had marred my face through the night. “What is wrong?” I was asked again and again at the university. My trite reply was “Nothing.”

Arriving home, I methodically pulled the mail from the mailbox as I entered the house. A curious, unstamped envelope caught my attention. “To a very, very, very, very special lady” was typewritten on the envelope. I gazed at the envelope and wondered if it were meant for me. Hoping it was, I tore it open. To my surprise I found several dollars inside, but not a note of explanation.

“Come quickly,” I beckoned the children. Together we counted the money, examined the envelope, and expressed wonder at

the anonymous gift. This was a direct answer to my prayer. There was enough money in the envelope to buy an extra gift for each child. I was stunned and amazed, and my joy and excitement of Christmas had returned. It was going to be a great Christmas Day after all. It wouldn’t be as lavish as those of my childhood, but it would be good enough.

I was curious. Where had the money come from? Could it be from a neighbor, a friend, a classmate, or the bishop? Logical deduction led me first to near neighbors. As I attempted to thank them, each stammered and then confessed, “It wasn’t me.” Asking friends and classmates rendered similar comments.

It must be the bishop, I decided. He denied being our benefactor, however, and assured us that he did not know who had been so kind.

Curiosity mounted as nightfall approached. I read the envelope again: “To a very, very, very, very, very special lady.” This time I noticed that the “e” and “l” were misshapen letters produced by an old typewriter ribbon. I also observed that each dollar bill had been folded and unfolded many times, as if each one had been of infinite worth. My desire to uncover the identity of the anonymous donor grew. Soon that desire was coupled with the gnawing resolve to return the money. The misshapen letters and folded bills evidenced that the generous donor also had financial difficulties.

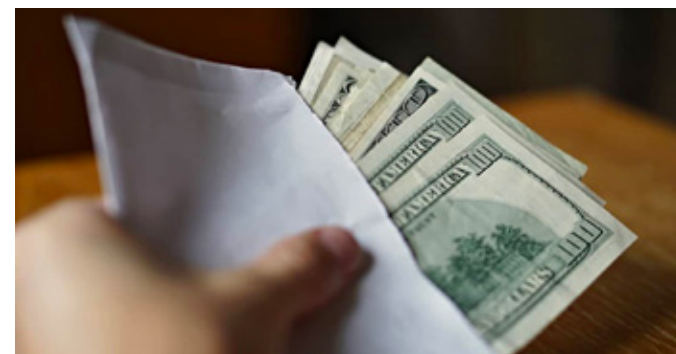
I couldn’t sleep that night. Again and again I asked myself, “Who was it?” I had the clues of the old typewriter ribbon and the folded money, but not the answer. I can’t really describe how I finally knew who the benefactor was, but about two o’clock in the morning, I knew. I knew who had a broken typewriter, and who needed to replace their ribbon, and who carefully folded and unfolded money, checking each dollar bill. It was my three sons.

With tears of love, I awoke the donors. Blurry-eyed they asked, “What’s wrong?” I replied, “Nothing’s wrong; everything is right! You gave me the money. You gave me all the money you possess!” Opening the bedroom closet door, I pulled out three empty jars that once had contained their treasured fortune. They sat silent for several moments until my nine-year-old Brian turned to his younger brother Todd and punched him. “You told!” he exclaimed. Attempting to fend off further blows, Todd yelled, “It wasn’t me, it must have been John.” Their five-year-old brother immediately said, “It wasn’t me,” as both boys landed on him. In unison they asked, “How did you know?”

I had searched outside my home for the answer—but the answer was within. I had seen generosity in all those around me, but had failed to recognize the generous hearts of my children. And now I more clearly knew why the Savior had said, “Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of heaven.” My house, with all of its material flaws, was my heaven on earth, and my sons were my greatest treasure. Christmas 1977 was indeed a merry Christmas worth remembering.

by Susan Easton Black

Source: <https://christmasstories.org/the-anonymous-benefactor/>





Bought this Christmas tree today. The seller was in such a hurry, not sure why. Got it really cheap though!



TO A MOTORCYCLE  
WET LEAVES  
CAN BE LIKE  
ICE

RIDERS

Enjoy the foliage, but scan ahead for this potential hazard.



### DMV Test Question

When riding at night, you should do all of the following, except:  
Answers

- A. Use your high beam.
- B. Use the headlights of vehicles ahead to help you see.
- C. Be visible.
- D. Ride only in the left portion of your lane.

See below to check your answer....Don't cheat!



#### DMV Answer Explanation

When riding at night, use your high beam (unless you are following or meeting another car), take advantage of the headlights of other vehicles, and wear reflective materials to increase your visibility. You should always be flexible about your lane position, selecting whichever position will help you to see, be seen, and have an adequate space cushion.

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# NIGHT RIDER RIDING YOUR MOTORCYCLE AT NIGHT

Ah, it's really tough to beat the fresh air and cool breeze of the open road. Riding your motorcycle at night can be one of the most enjoyable experiences ever. It's also just sometimes a necessity—you've got to get home and it's dark. As a motorcycle rider, you already have to pay more attention to the road and other riders, but at night, it's even more important. Fortunately, riding safely at night isn't super complicated. Make sure you're visible and you're following the rules of the road and you'll get there just fine.

Here's some info to help make your night ride a safe one:

## PROTECTIVE GEAR

Put on all of your protective gear before you ride at night.

Remember the acronym "ATGATT," which means "all the gear all the time." Wear a full-face helmet, protective jacket, pants, gloves, and boots. Put on clear goggles or a clear helmet visor so your eyes are protected as well.

You can also wear a vest with highly-reflective material so you're even more visible.

Riding at night can be more dangerous than riding during the day, so it's even more important that you wear all of your protective gear.

Choose highly visible clothing and a jacket with reflective material. Put on brightly colored clothes so other drivers can more easily see you on the road. Wear a protective riding jacket that has reflective material embedded in it so the light from headlights reflects off of it and you're even more visible.

Avoid wearing dark pants and a dark jacket.

You can find reflective riding jackets at rider-friendly apparel shops and you can also order them online.

Put on a white helmet so drivers can see you better. Wear a helmet that it's certified to be safe on the road so your head is protected. If you can, choose a white helmet, which is more visible in the dark.

Add reflective tape if you need to make yourself more visible.

If you need to up your visibility, take strips of reflective tape and attach them to your riding gear. You can also add strips of tape to your clothing to make them more visible as well.

You can also add a strip of tape to your helmet to increase your visibility.

Wear clear safety glasses when eye protection is required by law. Choose a pair of clear glasses and avoid using tinted or glasses with dark lenses, which can make it more difficult for you to see at night.

If your helmet uses a visor, choose a clear one for when you ride at night.

## BIKE VISIBILITY

Turn on your bike and switch on your headlight to make sure it's functioning and allows you to clearly see in front of you. Turn on both turn signals to test them and make sure they're working as well.

If your lights or turn signals aren't working, hold off on riding your motorcycle until daylight, when you can more easily see. Then you can head to a repair shop or parts store and replace the bulbs.

Grab the brake handle on the top right of your handlebars. Give it a good squeeze and check your brake lights to make sure they light up and are functioning.

It's super important that other drivers can see your brake lights so they know when you're slowing down and avoid a potential accident.

Apply strips of reflective tape to the sides of your bike so other drivers can more easily see you. Add some reflective decals to your bike as well. Make yourself as visible as you possibly can.

Use your brakes to announce your presence and make your bike more noticeable on the road. Give them a few rapid taps to turn your brake light into a giant blinker that grabs the attention of drivers behind you.



You can also tap your brakes to warn other riders of dangerous road conditions or to tell a tailgater to back off.

## ROAD SAFETY

Take the safest route possible to your destination. The road becomes more hazardous at night because of other drivers, potential obstacles, potholes, and other things that are less visible in the dark. Try to take routes that you're familiar with or that you know are safer and where you'll be more visible to other drivers so you can get to your destination safely.

Keep your lights on if they don't automatically stay on. Some older bikes have lights that you can shut on and off by flipping the light switch. Always keep your headlights and taillights on the entire time you're riding at night both so you can see and so other people can see you. Avoid dimming or shutting off your lights, even if you think the road is empty.

Focus on the road lines to avoid getting blinded by headlights. Avoid looking straight ahead into the headlights of oncoming traffic, which can disorient you and make it difficult for you to see. Instead, look down and focus on the white or yellow lines that separate the lanes on the road.

While you're riding on the road, stay either behind or ahead of other vehicles. Avoid their blind spots, which are the areas where their mirrors can't see you.

If you're in a blind spot of a vehicle, they may not see you when they change lanes or swerve into your lane to miss debris.

In general, think of yourself as being invisible to other drivers and try to put yourself in a position to be seen.

Try to anticipate other drivers' reactions (especially if they

seem aggressive or like they're in a hurry) so you can maintain your distance. Yield to other vehicles when it's required and try your best not to get angry or resort to road rage. Stay far enough away from other vehicles that you can safely slow down if they brake suddenly.

Try to be extra cautious when you're riding at night. Even if another vehicle is behaving rudely and you have the right of way, sometimes it's best to just let it go.

The rules of the road are even more important when you're riding at night. Don't assume that there isn't anybody around or it's safe to ignore traffic laws. It's always better to be safe than sorry!

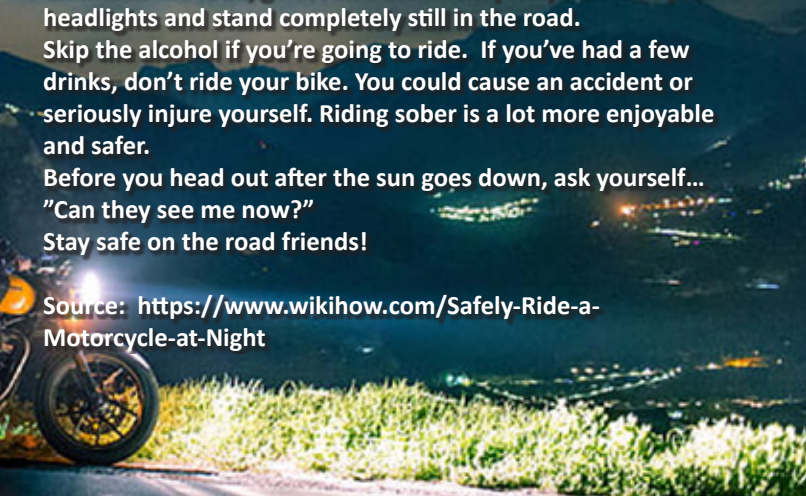
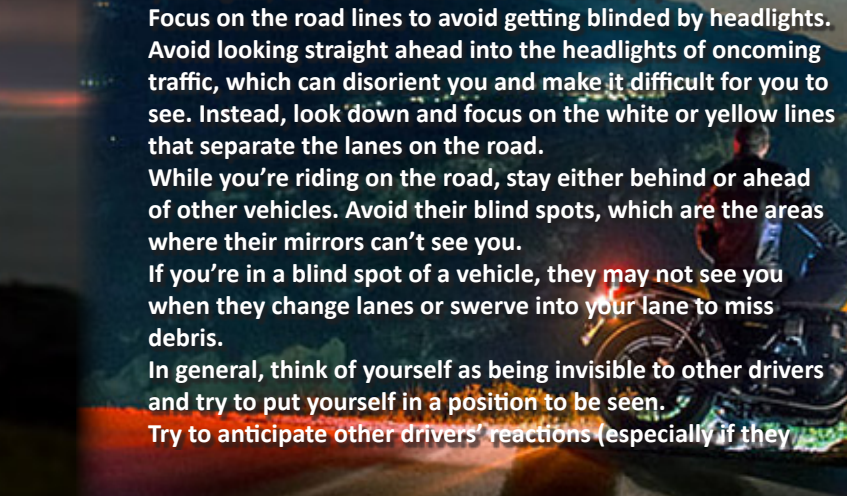
Watch out for animals crossing the road. Keep an eye out for the glow of animal eyes in the darkness. If you see an animal in the road, go around them. They may freeze in your headlights and stand completely still in the road.

Skip the alcohol if you're going to ride. If you've had a few drinks, don't ride your bike. You could cause an accident or seriously injure yourself. Riding sober is a lot more enjoyable and safer.

Before you head out after the sun goes down, ask yourself... "Can they see me now?"

Stay safe on the road friends!

Source: <https://www.wikihow.com/Safely-Ride-a-Motorcycle-at-Night>



# WHEN YOU'RE NOT OUT RIDING...

## Air Purifying Plants to Help You Breathe Better at Home Naturally

Ahhhh, there's nothing like breathing in the fresh clean air while you're out riding your bike. Wouldn't it be so nice to bring that fresh air indoors with you all year round? With the temperatures outside going down and the thermostat inside going up as we head into winter, most of us spend a lot more time inside. On any given day as you go from outdoors to in, you may find that the air that you breathe inside your home or even in your work space, becomes a bit stale. Houseplants can actually improve air quality and make your space a lot healthier. Research has proven the serious health benefits that come from decorating your living spaces with live botanicals. They promote overall well-being by boosting your mood, making you feel calmer, and certain plants can even remove toxins from the air much like a professional air purifier does.

But, before investing in an expensive air purifier, you may want to try out a few houseplants first — they're much cheaper and look a lot nicer. And while plants may not have the brawn of industrial machines, there are some that the health professionals at NASA recommends to clear out the toxins in your air.

According to NASA's Clean Air Study, which was designed to find ways to clean the air in sealed space stations, plants can be effective to absorb carbon dioxide, release oxygen into the air, and remove pollutants like

benzene, formaldehyde, and trichloroethylene. These chemicals can cause irritation to the skin, ears, eyes, nose, and throat, as well as some cancers, according to the EPA.

The study suggests that at least one plant per 100 square feet can effectively clean the air. So fill your space with these detoxifying plants, handpicked by NASA, to purify the air that you breathe indoors.



**SNAKE PLANT** - Ideal for your bedroom, this plant is unique in its ability to release oxygen at night. Snake plants, also known as "mother-in-law's tongue", are also capable of producing enough oxygen in an air-sealed room for people to breathe normally. According to NASA, it's one of the best plants for filtering the air of formaldehyde, xylene, benzene, toluene, and trichloroethylene. Water it about once a week, being sure to let the soil dry in-between waterings.

**BAMBOO PALM** - This fast-growing houseplant looks majestic and can



grow as high as 12 feet giving them an incredible presence indoors. These beautiful palms, which are safe around children and pets, will add moisture to the air in the dry winter months and they thrive in indirect sunlight away from any cold drafts. Take care of it by keeping the soil moist and misting its leaves.



**GARDEN MUM** - This plant was found by NASA to be a real air-purifying beast. It removes ammonia, benzene, formaldehyde, and xylene from your home's air. It's popular and inexpensive, plus they can be planted outside too.

**SPIDER PLANT** - Spider plants are incredibly easy to grow, so if you're a beginner, this is a great one to start with. It likes bright, indirect light and sends out shoots with flowers on them that will eventually grow into baby spider



plants that you can propagate yourself. Before too long, you'll have more spider plants than you'll know what to do with.



**FICUS** - Ficus trees are a favorite of mine as they are able to grow quite large depending on the type of pot you have them in. They typically stand between 2 and 10 feet tall and have some serious air cleaning abilities. You can also keep it outside in the spring and summer. The Ficus removes benzene, trichloroethylene and formaldehyde from indoor air.

**BOSTON FERN** - This plant likes cool locations with high humidity and indirect light. Bathrooms are a



perfect spot for these little friends but they can go in any room. They remove pollutants like xylene and formaldehyde from indoor air.



**GERBERA DAISY** It not only looks gorgeous, but it also removes benzene from the air. Gerbera Daisy improves your sleep since it absorbs carbon dioxide and gives off more oxygen. It is also effective in filtering benzene from inks. Keep some Gerbera Daisies in your laundry room or bedroom -- as long as these rooms are super light.



**ALOE VERA** - Aloe is a multi-use plant for sure. It has health

benefits when consumed in smaller amounts, helps relieve burns, and cleans your indoor air by removing formaldehyde effectively as well.



**ARECA PALM** - This plant is on the top of the list of plants ranged according to their efficacy in air cleanliness. Besides looking great, Areca Palm perfectly removes all airborne toxins, and it also regulated humidity, by releasing moisture into the air. There is evidence on its efficiency in removing salt from soil. It is resistant to pests and does not require any special treatment. It is best developed in semi-sun areas and temperatures ranging between 65-75 degrees.

Unless you're allergic to them, having these plants inside your home or work area will improve your air quality, and will also provide you with an increased sense of being connected to nature. You'll be surprised how much life a single plant can add to a room and you'll breathe happier too!





Toys for Tots began in 1947 as the brain child of Marine Corps Reserve Major Bill Hendricks. Actually, it was his wife, Diane, who was the real inspiration. She had a few handcrafted dolls and asked Bill to deliver them to an agency that supports children in need.

When Bill reported back to his wife that he could not find such an organization, she instructed him to "start one!". Maj Hendricks and the Marines in his reserve unit in LA collected and distributed 5,000 toys in 1947.

Seeing such successful community engagement in 1947, the Commandant directed all Marine Reserve Sites to implement a TFT campaign transforming it into a national community action program in 1948.

Bill Hendrick's civilian job was Director of Public Relations at Warner Brothers Studios. He was friends with many celebrities who he asked to help support the newly created Marine Toys for Tots Program. As a personal friend and as a favor to Bill, Walt Disney designed the first Toys for Tots poster which included a miniature three-car train that was subsequently adopted as the Toys for Tots logo.

Timeline  
1947



Major Bill Hendricks, USMCR founds Toys for Tots in Los Angeles, California. 5,000 toys were collected and distributed to less fortunate children during a campaign before Christmas 1947. The first toy was a handcrafted doll made by his wife, Diane.

1948



The United States Marine Corps adopts Toys for Tots and expands it into a nationwide community action program and formally became the U. S. Marine Corps Reserves Toys for Tots Program. Marines at each Reserve Center throughout the nation conduct toy collection and distribution campaigns in the communities surrounding the center.  
1948



Walt Disney designs the first national Toys for Tots poster which included the now famous Toys for Tots Train Logo. These Christmas posters have become

a recognized part of the annual program, and through the years have featured such notable characters as Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck, Dennis the Menace, Bugs Bunny and the Road Runner.  
1949



Major celebrities begin to endorse the program. Over the years Toys for Tots Spokespersons have included John Wayne, Bob Hope, Frank Sinatra, George Strait, Brooke Shields, Charlton Heston, Ann Margaret, Sammy Davis, Jr., Doris Day, Andy Griffith, Charlie Daniels, Clint Eastwood, Lorrie Morgan, Johnny Carson, Tim Allen, Kenny Rogers, Joe Foss, John Glenn, Heather French Henry (Miss America 2000), and Billy Ray Cyrus. First Ladies, Nancy Reagan and Barbara Bush, served as National Toys for Tots Spokespersons.

The Marine Toys for Tots Foundation, an IRS recognized 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit charity, was established in 1991 at the behest of the Marine Corps to help run and support the Marine Toys for Tots Program.

Presently, the Marine Toys for Tots Program distributes an average of 18 million toys to 7 million less fortunate children annually.

For more information about Toys For Tots and how you can get involved or donate, visit [www.toysfortots.org](http://www.toysfortots.org)



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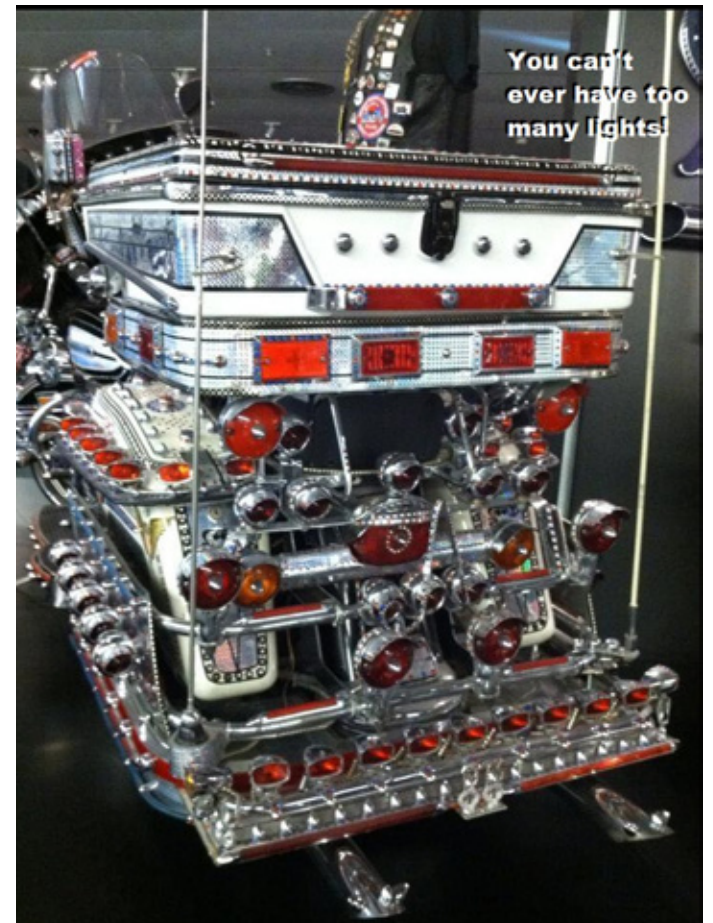
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# Merry Christmas



To Our Troops. Support Them This Holiday Season

WE WANT YOU TO JOIN



Why should you join ABATE? For the preservation of your freedom to ride a motorcycle, on and off road, today and into the future. Meet other motorcycle enthusiasts in your community and join them to promote motorcycling through participation at State and Chapter meetings, meeting with Virginia legislators and local officials, chapter rides, rallies, benefit rides, bike shows and more.

- ◆ Join a group actively protecting and defending your rights
- ◆ Meet people who love freedom and having a good time
- ◆ Enjoy discounted memberships for additions in the same household
- ◆ Get your first year free if you are 18 to 29 years old

Check out the local chapter nearest you at [abateva.org](http://abateva.org)  
**BECOME INVOLVED AND JOIN TODAY!**